(b) the time-frame fixed up by his Ministry for the survey of above new rail lines; and

(c) where Rajasthan stands in the availability of rail network *vis-a-vis* other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Record of each and every demands received is not maintained. However, following new surveys falling fully/partly in the State of Rajasthan have been included in the Budget 2005-06 and 2006-07:—

1. New line for Anupgarh-Khajuwala-Ramgarh-Jaisalmer
2. New line for Ajmer-Kota.
3. New line for Tonk-Devli.
4. New line for Anupgarh-Kolayat *via* Khajuwala.
5. New line for Loharu-Bhiwani

The survey for Loharu-Bhiwani has been completed and others are likely to be completed by 2008-09.

(c) Rajasthan stands second in availability of route kilometers with 5838 route kilometers amongst all other States in the country.

Surat-Hazira rail line

3327. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the planning of his Ministry/RVNL to develop Surat-Hazira railway line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): The project development of Surat-Hazira new line has been completed and the project is proposed to be implemented through a project specific Special Purpose Vehicle with the following parties as partners:—

(a) Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL)

(b) Gujarat Maritime Board

(c) Hazira Port Private Limited

(d) Essar Steel Limited and with viability gap funding by the Ministry of

Finance and Grant by the Government of Gujarat. The process of sanction of project has been initiated.

Pre-Budget meeting of MPs with MoS

3328. DR. K. MALAISAMY:
SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the outcome of pre-budget meeting of Tamil Nadu MPs convened by Minister of State on 8th February, 2007 at Chennai;

(b) what is the mechanism of follow up action and time-frame for disposal of issues raised then; and

(c) whether such meeting would follow periodically?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Minister of State for Railways had conducted a meeting with Members of Parliament of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry on 08.02.2007. The minutes of the meeting has been issued. Necessary follow up action on various points is being taken and replies on the points raised would be given.

(c) Such interactions with Members of Parliament is being done in various forums to know their demands.

Investigations of the Samjhauta Express Explosions

3329. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether investigations of the explosion of two bogies of Samjhauta Express which snuffed out 68 innocent persons in February, 2007 have since been completed;

(b) if so, what is the number of persons, so far, arrested in this case; and

(c) whether compensation to the next of the kins of the victims have since been given and if so, the details thereof?